

Message Text

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ACTION AF-06

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FM AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8292

C O N F I D E N T I A L MONROVIA 7567

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PGOV, LI, US

SUBJ: INAUGURATION OF PRESIDENT TOLBERT

REF: A) STATE 294805 B) STATE 294667

1. SUMMARY. THIS MESSAGE GIVES SCHEDULE OF INAUGURAL EVENTS, PROVIDES INFORMATION ON DRESS REQUIREMENTS AND OTHER MATTERS MENTIONED STATE 294805, AND REQUESTS CERTAIN INFORMATION CON-
CERNING US DELEGATION. MESSAGE ALSO RECOMMENDS THAT USDEL REQUEST BILATERAL MEETING WITH PRESIDENT TOLBERT TO DELIVER TO HIM PERSONAL MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT FORD. END SUMMARY.

2. AMBASSADOR LEONARD DESHIELD, FOREIGN MINISTRY'S CHIEF OF PROTOCOL, DECEMBER 16 PROVIDED FOLLOWING INFORMATION REQUIRED BY STATE 294805.

3. AS NOW PLANNED, SCHEDULE OF EVENTS DURING INAUGURAL PERIOD WILL BE AS FOLLOWS:

JANUARY 4 10:00 A.M. PRESIDENT TOLBERT WILL RECEIVE SPECIAL DELEGATIONS TO INAUGURAL CEREMONIES, EXECUTIVE MANSION.

4:00 P.M. INTERCESSORY SERVICE, ZION PRAISE BAPTIST CHURCH, BENTOL.

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7:00 P.M. CULTURAL PERFORMANCE, PROVIDENCE

ISLAND.

JANUARY 5 11:00 A.M. SWEARING IN OF PRESIDENT AND VICE
PRESIDENT, CENTENNIAL PAVILLION

9:00 P.M. INAUGURAL BALL, EXECUTIVE PAVILL
ION.

JANUARY 6 8:00 A.M. MILITARY CEREMONY, BARCLAY TRAINING
CENTER.

11:30 A.M. FOREIGN MINISTER DENNIS' RECEPTION
(STAG) FOR SPECIAL DELEGATIONS, EXECUTIVE PAVILLION.

3:30 P.M. YOUTH DEMONSTRATION, TUBMAN STADIUM.

8:00 P.M. PRESIDENT AND MRS. TOLBERT'S
BANQUET HONORING SPECIAL DELEGATIONS, EXECUTIVE MANSION.

JANUARY 7 11:30 A.M. MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVT GOODRIDGE'S
RECEPTION FOR LIBERIAN DELEGATIONS, EXECUTIVE PAVILLION.

4:00 P.M. PRESIDENT AND MRS. TOLBERT'S GARDEN
PARTY, EXECUTIVE MANSION GROUNDS.

9:00 P.M. INAUGURAL MUSICAL DRAMA. E.J.
ROYE BUILDING.

4. FOR INAUGURAL BALL AND PRESIDENT AND MRS. TOLBERT'S
BANQUET DRESS WILL BE BLACK TIE; FOR ALL OTHER SOCIAL
OCCASIONS, BUSINESS SUIT.

5. PRESIDENT TOLBERT WILL RECEIVE ALL SPECIAL DELEGATIONS
EN MASSE JANUARY 4. REQUESTS FOR A BILATERAL MEETING WITH
PRESIDENT WILL BE CONSIDERED ON REQUEST (SEE PARA.11, BELOW).

6. THERE IS NO EXPECTATION THAT HEAD USDEL WILL HAVE OCCASION
TO SPEAK FROM PREPARED TEXT. AT BANQUET SENIOR QUEST PRESENT,
WHOM GOL EXPECTS WILL BE OAU CHAIRMAN AMIN, WILL PROPOSE
TOAST ON BEHALF OF GUESTS.
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7. ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE STATEMENTS WILL NOT BE EXPECTED
BY GOL; WHETHER OR NOT SUCH STATEMENTS ARE MADE IS MATTER FOR
HEAD USDEL TO DECIDE.

8. DESHIELD URGENTLY REQUEST THAT GOL BE INFORMED SOONEST
IDENTITIES OF MEMBERS OF US DELEGATION.

9. EMBASSY ALSO WOULD LIKE TO KNOW SOONEST IF DELEGATION WILL BE ACCOMPANIED BY ESCORT OFFICER(S), STAFF OR PRESS REPRESENTATIVES, AND, IF SO, NAMES OF SUCH PERSONS. THIS INFORMATION REQUIRED BY GOL, BUT IS ALSO IMPORTANT TO EMBASSY FOR PURPOSE OF MAKING HOUSING ARRANGEMENTS.

10. CHARGE WILL PLAN TO GIVE RECEPTION IN HONOR USDEL EVENING JANUARY 3. WOULD APPRECIATE SOONEST INDICATION OF WHAT OTHER SOCIAL EVENTS HOSTED BY AMERICANS USDEL WOULD HAVE INTEREST IN.

11. ANNOUNCEMENT SUBJECT OF STATE 294667, FOR REASONS SET FORTH SEPTEL, SHOULD BE DELIVERED PRIVATELY TO PRESIDENT TOLBERT. EMBASSY SHOULD THEREFORE BE INSTRUCTED SOONEST TO REQUEST BILATERAL MEETING BETWEEN HIM AND USDEL. EMBASSY STRONGLY URGES THAT, IN ADDITION TO MAKING STATEMENT ON FUTURE OF US ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO LIBERIA, USDEL DELIVER PERSONAL MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT FORD, ALSO DISCUSSED SEPTEL.

12. PRESIDENT TOLBERT IS UNLIKELY TO RAISE SPECIFIC SUBJECTS WITH USDEL. HIS STYLE IS TO TALK IN GENERAL TERMS, LEAVING SPECIFICS TO HIS MINISTERS. HE WOULD PROBABLY DISCUSS IN GENERAL WAY HIS ASPIRATIONS FOR LIBERIA'S DEVELOPMENT AND ITS NEED FOR ASSISTANCE, PARTICULARLY FROM U.S. OTHER TOPICS OF CONCERN TO HIM, SUCH AS ANGOLA AND OAU'S EFFORTS TO DEAL WITH THAT PROBLEM, MIGHT ARISE. BUT WHETHER THEY DID OR NOT WOULD PROBABLY DEPEND ON IDENTITY, BACKGROUND, INTEREST AND EXPERTISE OF USDEL AND PARTICULARLY ITS SPOKESMAN.

13. RECOMMEND USDEL PLAN TO ARRIVE MONROVIA MORNING JANUARY 3 AND REMAIN THROUGH PRESIDENT'S GARDEN PARTY JANUARY 7.

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